

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 IO-14 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 AID-20

DRC-01 /166 W

----- 066098

O R 081005Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6543

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN

SECDEF

DIA

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC

CINCPACAF

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

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USDAO SAIGON

COMUSMACTHAI
DODSPECREP BANGKOK
DODSPECREP NKP
354 TFW KORAT
CHSPECACTS BANGKOK
CDR JCRC NKP
7 ACCS KORAT
432 TFW UDORN
8 TFW KORAT
56 SOW NKP
388 TFW KORAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 7624

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD; 13 AF ADVON, 432 TFW, 56 SOW, 388 TFW,
354 TFW AND 8 TFW FOR DO/DI; MACTHAI FOR J-2 AND PAO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PFOR, PINS, PINT, LA
SUBJECT: LAO WEEKLY SITREP - NOVEMBER 8

REF: VIENTIANE 7472

I. IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT

A. AIRLIFT OF ADDITIONAL LPF PERSONNEL RESUMES

THE AIRLIFT OF LPF PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT TO VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG RESUMED NOVEMBER 3, AND, IN THE FIVE DAYS ENDING NOVEMBER 7, SOVIET AN-12 FLIGHTS BROUGHT TO VIENTIANE 590 PERSONNEL (INCLUDING 400 IN MILITARY UNIFORMS) AND PRC IL-14S CARRIED 334 TO LUANG PRABANG (INCLUDING 228 IN MILITARY UNIFORM). CARGO FOR BOTH CITIES INCLUDED AMMUNITION, RICE, FURNITURE AND NUMEROUS BAGS AND PACKAGES WITH UNIDENTIFIABLE CONTENTS. TOTAL NUMBER OF LPF PERSONNEL AIRLIFTED SINCE OCTOBER 9 IS NOW ABOUT 967 TO VIENTIANE AND 368 TO LUANG PRABANG. FLIGHTS TO VIENTIANE ARE BEING SUSPENDED NOVEMBER 8-11, DURING HEIGHT OF THAT LUANG FESTIVITIES, BUT, SO FAR AS WE KNOW, FLIGHTS TO LUANG PRABANG ARE SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE THROUGH NOVEMBER 10. WE UNDERSTAND THAT, AFTER THIS "SECOND CONTINGENT" OF LPF IS IN PLACE, LPF WILL
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SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A THIRD AIRLIFT. ASSUMING THAT A BATTALION NUMBERS BETWEEN 350-600 MEN, LPF WOULD, UNDER THE TERMS OF THE PROTOCOL, EVENTUALLY BE ENTITLED TO INTRODUCE AS MANY AS 1,720 MEN INTO VIENTIANE AND 810 INTO LUANG PRABANG.

B. ACTIVITIES OF LPF PERSONNEL IN VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG

LPF PERSONNEL IN VIENTIANE HAVE APPARENTLY FILLED UP SOMBOUN

SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION INITIALLY PROVIDED BY RLG AND HAVE NOW ALSO OCCUPIED THE SOMBOUN HOTEL AT THE OTHER END OF TOWN (ACROSS FROM THE BRITISH EMBASSY). THEY HAVE ALSO BEGUN TO INHABIT SOME OF THE SMALLER RESIDENCES ALLOTTED TO THEM, WHICH ARE NEAR THE U.S. EMBASSY. OBSERVERS HAVE NOTED LIMITED NUMBER OF LPF RIDING IN VEHICLES AROUND TOWN AND ATTENDING THE THAT LUANG FAIR, BUT THEIR PRESENCE IS NOT CONSPICUOUS, THEY DO TEND TO STICK CLOSE TO THEIR COMPOUNDS, AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTED INCIDENTS. LPF PERSONNEL IN LUANG PRABANG SEEM TO BE CIRCULATING MORE FREELY THAN THOSE IN VIENTIANE, IN KEEPING WITH THE ROYAL CAPITAL'S MORE RELAXED AND LESS POLITICIZED AMBIENCE. THEY HAVE BEEN VISITING THE MARKET, SHOPS, AND RESTAURANTS. THEY HAVE APPARENTLY SET UP A SMALL DISPENSARY AT THEIR COMPOUND (THE OLD AIRA HOUSE) AND HAVE BEEN PROVIDING SOME MEDICAL CARE TO THE LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO HAVE APPEARED AT THE COMPOUND. THE RLG AND THE LPF LIAISON OFFICERS IN LUANG PRABANG ALSO APPEAR TO HAVE DEVELOPED A CORDIAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP.

II. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MET NOVEMBER 5 AND 6 TO HEAR PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT REGARDING THE FEBRUARY AGREEMENT AND SEPTEMBER PROTOCOL. IN BRIEF DISCOURSE, PRIME MINISTER EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND TERMED ACCORDS "GREAT VICTORY" FOR LAO PEOPLE. DURING WIDE-RANGING, FIVE-HOUR DISCUSSION, DEPUTIES WHOLEHEARTEDLY ENDORSED CURRENT EFFECTIVE CEASEFIRE AND FINALLY PASSED A RESOLUTION FALLING SOMEWHAT SHORT OF EXPRESSING FULL SUPPORT FOR AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL. RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGES THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ACCORDS AND THE NATURE OF THE NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT AND ASSERTS THAT ALL PARTIES CONCERNED MUST "SINCERELY IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT." DEPUTIES ALSO INSERTED PHRASE THAT IN REUNITING LAOS "EXISTING POLITICAL PARTIES AND REPRESENTATIVES IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY" SHOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSULTED. DEPUTIES CONSIDER THIS LATTER PROVISION A LEVER FOR CONTINUING ASSEMBLY INVOLVEMENT WITH THE AGREEMENT AND FOR OBTAINING POSITIONS IN NEW PGNU OR JNPC. ON NOVEMBER 7, THE KING PRESIDED OVER CEREMONIES CLOSING THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND KING'S COUNCIL. THE KING'S SPEECH TO THE ASSEMBLY, DRAFTED BY THE RLG, EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT ASSEMBLY HAD "ACCEPTED LAOS AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL." THIS GOES BEYOND A STRICT CONSTRUCTION OF THE RESOLUTION BUT IS CLEARLY THE INTERPRETATION PRIME MINISTER FAVORS IN HIS SEARCH FOR ASSEMBLY APPROVAL OF THE ACCORDS. IN HIS OWN ADDRESS TO THE KING'S COUNCIL, HIS MAJESTY EMPHASIZED THAT LAO PEOPLE THEMSELVES HAD FOUND A "SEPARATE SOLUTION" TO THE PROBLEM OF LAOS, APART FROM FOREIGN INFLUENCE. HE, THUS, CLEARLY OUTLINED HIS AND PRIME MINISTER'S HOPE THAT A SOLUTION IN LAOS NEED NOT BE TIED TO DEVELOPMENTS ELSEWHERE IN INDOCHINA. RLG HOLDS THAT, IF NECESSARY, NATIONAL

ASSEMBLY CAN BE RECONVENED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION BEFORE
NEXT REGULAR SESSION SCHEDULED TO OPEN MAY 11.

III. SECURITY SITUATION

THREE INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED DURING THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 8,
ONE OF WHICH INVOLVED U.S. CONTRACT HELICOPTER. ON NOVEMBER 1,
MEMBERS OF A GOVERNMENT COMPANY MOVING TO NEW POSITIONS
ACTIVATED A MINE 35 KMS WEST/NORTHWEST OF XIENG LOM IN MR-I,
KILLING ONE AND WOUNDING ONE. WHILE CLEARING AN EMERGENCY HELI-
COPTER PAD, ANOTHER MINE WAS ACTIVATED, WOUNDING FIVE MORE MEN.
A HELICOPTER, LANDING TO EVACUATE THE WOUNDED, WAS FIRED ON,
WOUNDING ANOTHER PERSON.

WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731145/aaaabhej.tel
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005